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FACTS ABOUT CENTRAL WISCONSIN FARMS

MARSHFIELD, WISCONSIN

Official Name: Central Wisconsin Farms.

Location: In central Wisconsin. There are 36 farms in Clark County, 15 in Marathon County, 14 in Wood County and 7 in Jackson County. Project Headquarters: Marshfield, Wisconsin.

History of Project: Initiated by the Resettlement Administration in the Spring of 1936, Central Wisconsin Farms was later transferred to the Farm Security Administration. Construction was begun in the Spring of 1937, and is expected to be completed June 30, 1938.

Purpose of Project: This project was designed to provide homes and farms for landless farm families who had no opportunity to obtain land of their own. The project was intended for those families who were fitted by experience and background for commercial agriculture.

Project Description: Individual farms on this 6,800 acre tract average 94 acres each. The soil is largely a colby silt loam which is excellent hay, pasture and small grain land. It is devoted to extensive dairying. Cheese factories are thickly scattered throughout the region. All the farms on the project were complete units, so that little new construction was necessary. Remodeling and repair work put all buildings in good condition. The repair work, done by a construction crew, included such operations as the placing of new foundations under the barns and dwellings, roof and well repairs, and in some instances, the building of new poultry houses. On one unit, acquired by subdivision, an entire set of new buildings was constructed. As of June 1, 1938, all of the 72 farms on the project had been sold with the exception of two.

House Description: Only two new dwellings have been constructed, and one has been completely remodeled. Roofs and foundations were repaired on the existing houses and re-siding and painting has also been done.

The Homesteaders: Most of the homesteaders are between the ages of 30 and 40 years, and are former residents of the counties in the project area. They are familiar with the type of farming carried on in the community. All have an agricultural background and have demonstrated their ability to assume obligations. Most of them would find it difficult to find employment, other than farming. Many of the homesteaders were formerly on the rural rehabilitation program, and one family was formerly located on the submarginal land taken over by the Land Utilization Division.

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